

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Process for high speed metal strip electroplating of a moving strip comprising:
 - moving the strip vertically downwardly between a first pair of tin anodes facing the moving strip and then moving the strip vertically upwardly between a second pair of tin anodes facing the moving strip, and
 - plating the moving strip by anodically dissolving the tin anodes facing the strip into an electroplating solution, and
 - depositing anodically dissolved tin from the tin anodes on at least part of the strip acting as a cathode,
 - wherein each anode comprises an anode basket having a front wall facing a side of the moving strip and the tin of the tin anodes is supplied to the electroplating solution in the form of tin pellets held in each said anode basket,
 - wherein each anode has a top and a bottom and each anode front wall is closer to the strip it faces at the bottom than at the top;
 - wherein elongated edge portions of the wall of the tin anodes are masked out using adjustable masking means comprising elongated moveable edge masks, the adjustable masking means controlled and guided dependent on strip width and/or tin coating thickness distribution, and
 - wherein the elongated edge portions of the wall of the tin anodes are elongated substantially vertically and the elongated moveable edge masks are elongated substantially vertically.
2. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the masking means comprise a shutter or blind.
3. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the tin pellets are electrically contacted via a current collector made of a material with a low electrical resistance allowing for good electrical contact with the tin pellets and being electrochemically inert in [[the]] an electrolyte used to anodically dissolve

the tin pellets.

4. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ each anode basket is ~~[[the]]~~ a current collector, electrically contacting the tin pellets held therein.
5. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein an automated supply system is provided to add the tin pellets to the anode ~~[[basket]]~~ baskets during said plating.
6. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein a transverse overlap of a respective said edge mask and the strip has a value in a range from 30 to 60 mm.
7. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the high speed metal strip electroplating occurs along a plating line and wherein the edge masks are operated from a distance from the plating line to move the edge masks to adjust transverse overlap of the edge mask and strip.
8. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, wherein a ~~remainder of space, on portion of~~ the front wall, ~~[[is]]~~ not masked by the moveable edge masks is ~~[[open]]~~ facing the moving strip to directly ~~oppose~~ the moving strip.
- 9 – 10. (Cancelled)
11. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the longitudinal axis of the moving strip facing the front wall does not oppose the moveable edge masks.

12. (New) Process for electroplating a metal strip comprising:
 - moving the metal strip vertically downwardly between a first pair of anode baskets and then moving the strip vertically upwardly between a second pair of anode baskets,
 - wherein each anode basket comprises a front wall facing the metal strip,
 - wherein the bottom of each front wall is closer to the metal strip than the top of each front wall,
 - wherein moveable edge masks are elongated substantially vertically on each front wall, and
 - wherein the moveable edge masks are positioned based on a parameter selected from the group consisting of a width of the metal strip, a tin coating distribution, and combinations thereof;
 - anodically dissolving tin pellets held in each anode basket; and
 - depositing the anodically dissolved tin on at least part of the metal strip acting as a cathode.
13. (New) Process according to claim 12, wherein the anode basket is covered with an anode bag.
14. (New) Process according to claim 5, wherein the high speed metal strip electroplating occurs along a plating line and wherein the edge masks are operated from a distance from the plating line to move the edge masks to adjust transverse overlap of the edge mask and strip.
15. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the longitudinal axis of the moving strip facing the front wall does not oppose the moveable edge masks.